# **COLDHAM CHRONICLE**

Coldham Hall Sailing Club Est. 1951

'The Heart of Sailing in the Yare Valley'



# **Club Officers**

**Commodore:** David Taitt david.taitt@gmail.com

Vice - Commodore: Vacant

Rear Commodore: Vacant

**Secretary:** Emma Crowfoot ejcrowfoot@gmail.com

**Treasurer:** David Woolston woolston546@btinternet.com

Race Officer: Ben Adams tobenadams6@gmail.com

Social Secretary: Amanda Blezard

Bosun: David Taitt david.taitt@gmail.com



www.coldhamhallsailingclub.co.uk



Coldham Hall Sailing Club



Yare Navigation Race



CHSC Triple B Dinghy & Keel Boat Race

# The Coldham Chronicle

Welcome to your October Chronicle. the clocks 'fall' back to GMT, losing an hour's daylight in the morning and earlier getting darker in the evening. Coldham remains **OPEN** for us all to enjoy time by and on the river, both sailing and paddling and getting together, good for our 'wellbeing'.

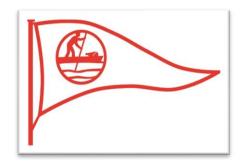
Autumn or 'fall' is a lovely time, the river is quieter, less boats, some birds have migrated for warmer places, those remaining are easier to see, one of the most spectacular parts of the season arriving is the tree leaves changing colour to their Autumn Dress, then shedding their leaves. Just ensure an extra and spare layer of clothing, keep warm and enjoy.

Due to storm Amy we lost the Yare Navigation Race on the 4<sup>th</sup> October which was cancelled due to the strong gales forecast. Next year 2026 the YNR is on 5<sup>th</sup> September. This will be the 50<sup>th</sup> Year of the YNR and we plan to make it special and yes we would like your help, please put the date in your diary. We can look back and question why it was cancelled as we soon forget the strength of the wind especially when a week later the wind strength is a lowly 3mph at best and a strong tide. Over the same weekend we asked where has all the water gone with exceptionally low tides, 6hrs later we're flooded.

We report on the final Summer Races including cancelation days and Commodores Day as we move into are winter series, Paddlers had a delicious Breakfast paddle from the Club to the Ferry on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October.

'Movember' is here again, it is something we will highlight yearly, we need help from all to ensure us men talk openly about Prostrate Cancer, of course it is time to grow a 'Tach' in support.

Also in this edition, Coldham Paddlers meet FRED and ask 'What is a Broads Authority Ranger on his own called'?



# Notes from the Committee held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October

Club Commodore David Taitt opened the meeting and welcomed everybody. Septembers minutes were agreed and signed, matters arising covered.

**Hon. Secretary-** Request from Norfolk Punt Club to advertise their Classic Boat Event in 2026

**Treasurer** – Club finances detailed. YNR sponsorship monies from Jeckell received even though event was cancelled as Jeckells recognise effort put into organising the event.

YNR committee to contact paid entries to decide upon refund of fees.

Monies paid to Frostbites for damage to their rescue boat following loan during Triple B Race

**Bosun** – Member C Hovey has suggested that Club house roof repairs commence before winter and that he is prepared to supply a list of required materials and provide oversite to repairs.

Race Officer – Waveney event went well and enjoyed by all. Some concern over lack of CHSC members interest on the Saturday and suggestion to convert event to an Autumn Regatta to encourage greater participation and invite other clubs. Ben to look into feasibility.

Social Secretary – Nothing to Report

**Partnerships**- Dave Taitt has had talk with Inn and they were happy with arrangements for Waveney Event

**AOB**. Dave Greenacre has taken cans to tip and received £13.50 for them. Decided not worth pursuing further.

# Upcoming Events 2025

**November** 

Sunday 2nd Winter Downriver Series starts

**December** 

Wednesday 3rd Annual General Meeting Sunday 14th Christmas Pudding Race

2026

**January** 

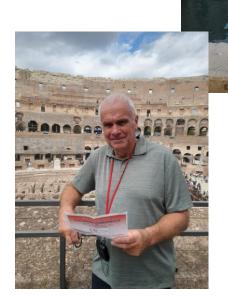
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup>

Annual Dinner & Prizegiving

**September** 

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> Yare Navigation Race

The above list is correct at time of going to press but may be subject to change throughout the year. A full list of all racing and social events for 2025 will be shortly updated on the club website.



### Where Do You Read The Chronicle?

President and Editor Gary on tour with his copy of The Coldham Chronicle in Venice and Rome.

See more of your pics on Page 4

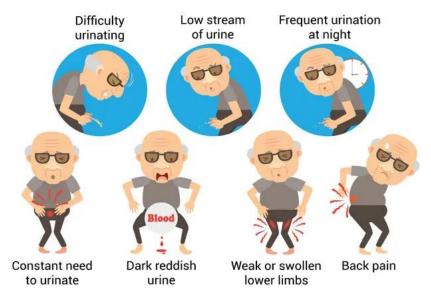
## Its that time again - Movember

Every year as part of our Octobers Chronicle Dave and I pass you this message. It is a mission for which we give no apologies and which we both have supported over many years. It is particularly important this year as the Government considers whether to continue or scrap the screening process for all men.

The message is simple, make all men aware of Prostrate and Testicular Cancers. So many men still need to at least book an appointment with their doctors and get a PSA check, its only a simple blood test and while it may not be conclusive it is a pointer to underlying issues you may not be aware of. Prostrate Cancer symptoms can easily be dismissed as part of getting older. Don't let the receptionist put you off.

The message needs to be got out there so talk to each other, the facts are there if you're male, over 40 read on, if you know someone, family or friend, who you can pass this message on to, please do.

Prostate Cancer is the most common form of cancer in men with over 55,100 new cases each year. (2023 = 52,000) we are all very well aware of the outcome if not detected and treated early. Don't think 'it won't affect me I'm not old enough'! Wrong prostate cancer is increasingly affecting more and more younger and fitter men.



Your awareness is all we ask and if you have any symptoms, no matter how minor, or any family history then to make sure you get your prostrate checked and also to check your testicles regularly. Get checked now!!

Advice and a simple online Questionnaire is freely available at https://www.prostatecanceruk.org/risk-checker.

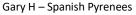
**Movember,** the month formerly known as November, is when brave and selfless men around the world grow a moustache, and the ladies step up to support them. All done to raise awareness for men's health – most specifically Prostate and Testicular Cancer. Don't forget Cancer research motto '**We can beat cancer together**' (PSA = Prostate Specific Antigen).



# Reading the Chronical - National and Internationally.

Last month we set members the challenge to show us where they read The Coldham Chronicle. Well you rose to the challenge and The Chronicle has been seen not just at home in Norwich but Italy, Spain, and The Canadian Rockies. So a big thankyou to all who have sent in their pictures, please keep them coming and can anybody go further?







Georgie – Barcelona



Jane St Peter Mancroft – Norwich & Thames Rocket



Stephen. - Niagara Falls



Over The Rockies



Louis-Jolliet Ferry



CNN Tower Toronto.



Parliamentary Building Victoria



Tour guide and driver reading the Chronicle



Jenny & Phil Duomo Bell Tower

# Where has all the water gone and then flooding 6hrs later

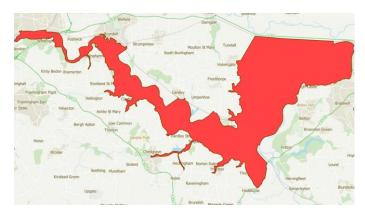
Over the weekend of Storm Amy the whole of the Broads experienced extreme and very rare high and low water levels. Boats were left high and dry, some hanging from their moorings. The club moorings being affected but the new pontoon system coped well and kept the boats from tipping and safe unlike the last occurrence of low water in

Just 6hrs later the Broads then experienced flooding.

Locally those who were able to get to the Tavern found the Carnser flooded going home. The whole of the Broads being affected by flooding.



Club mooring pictures courtesy of Sam Dunning







Reedham Ferry affected by the flooding – Picture by Richard Sargeant

# **Sailing Section**

### **OOD Duties - November**

DATE	ALLCOMERS EVENT		OOD	SECOND OFFICER	THIRD OFFICER
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Allcomers Downriver	Winter (1)	Phil Parker	S Lock	S Lee
9 <sup>th</sup>	Allcomers Downriver	Winter (2)	C Brown	J Robertson	T Hyder
16 <sup>th</sup>	Allcomers Downriver	Winter (3)	B Adams	A Blezard	M Dunne
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Allcomers Downriver	Winter (4)	A Sach	T Pye	G Ange
30th	Allcomers Downriver	Winter (5)	K Halifax	J Yeates	S Krzykala

# Mid-summer sailing bonanza by Ben Adams Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> August Club - Blue-Ribbon event the "Reedham Race"

Back in August five Yeomans and a Wayfarer took part in the Clubs Reedham race. Competitors choosing their own start time to take advantage of the wind and tide. *Millchic* helmed by Emma Crowfoot and *Trio* helmed by Dave Taitt chose to start early at 9.30am, *Magpie* helmed by Bill Clark and the Club Wayfarer helmed by Hugh Smith aided by his 2 sons, set off at 9.45am with *Talisker* helmed by Nigel Kippin and *Diamond Lil* helmed by Sandy Watt at 10.00am. The late starters proved to being able to take advantage of the more favourable conditions. *Talisker* finishing the first leg in the quickest time of 2 hours 4 minutes and *Diamond Lil* less than 2 minutes later.

On the return leg Dave Taitt took a gamble and headed back straight away, but it did not pay off. Sandy Watt was next having waited 24 minutes but again it was not the best of conditions. As it turned out Bill Clark, leaving last, had the best time of 2 hours 3 minutes but sadly it was not enough to overhaul Nigel's first leg but a second place overall was a good achievement. The trophy therefore went to Nigel Kippin in *Talisker* in an overall time of 3 hours 42 minutes.

# Postponement day, Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> October - Downriver

Following the stormy conditions last week forcing thecancellation of the YNR it was again frustrating that this Sunday conditions were the exact opposite with at best 3mph wind from the North and with stong tides.

Ben wisely cancellled the days sailing, so what do you do. Well *Kingfisher* with Paul, Mike Dave and Gary put the outboard on and headed to the Surlingham Ferry for a coffee, mind you we soon realised that our outboard needs a bit of a service.

A lovely team morning.



# Commodores Race Day 2025 Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> October

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> started grey and with light winds despite the forecast of 14mph wind with 27 to 30mph gusts. Was this to be yet another incorrect forecast and a drift instead of a sail? Read on.

Commodore Dave Taitt, ably assisted by Dave Greenacre, initially planned a course through Bargate broad and placed a buoy in the broad to turn around. However, as the wind began to increase to a South Westerly, they changed plans and set a course downriver to the first Rockland entrance across the broad out of the far dyke back to the clubhouse. No handicaps, first boat home to be the winner. Paddles permitted as required.

Nine boats came to the start line, two Wayfarers and seven Yeomans. Ben Adams, having left his Yeomans boom at home, along with Tristram deciding to compete in the second club Wayfarer.

The wind rapidly picked up so that by the start time it was around the forecasted 14mph, gusting 27ish. All boats got away with Sandy Wells and dad John in *Diamond Lil* taking an early lead. David & Margaret Woolston's *Shibolah* chasing them for second place and Paul and Gill in the Club Wayfarer chasing down third. The middle positions being hotly contested between Nigel and Jenny in Yeoman *Talisker*, Amanda & Mike in *Contest* and Dave Durrant and Tina Pye in *Bluey*. Chris & Liz Hovey in *Virago*, having resolved their issues getting the mainsail up, along with Debbie, Jayne and Judith in *Millchic* and Ben and Crispin in the Wayfarer following.

At the entrance to the first dyke *Bluey* had established a distance ahead of *Talisker* only to be overtaken going down the dyke as Nigel, standing up with the tiller clamped between his legs, paddling furiously and Jenny on the other side of the boat also paddling like mad stormed down the dyke. Hawaii Five O had nothing on this pair!

After a close-hauled sail across the broad and a beam reach back up the dyke to the river the boats turned to head back to the clubhouse with the wind now firmly behind them.

First back being Sandy & John followed by Paul & Gill's Wayfarer in 2<sup>nd</sup> and Nigel and Jenny 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Ben & Crispin, Yeoman Sailors normally, having survived the gusts in the Wayfarer, managed to get back in one piece, although it appears Crispin had devised a novel new approach to tacking a dinghy by chucking the tiller over letting go and diving across the boat to catch it and the mainsheet.

Dave Taitt then presented the winners with their prizes of wine and chocolates.

After the 'drifts' of late it was great to have a good stiff breezy sail to finish off the summer season. Oh yes and the weatherman did get it right this time!

Ed's Note - Apologies for the lack of action pictures, was a tad too busy hanging on, paddling or trying desperately to catch up the boat in front. Did get a couple in the clubhouse afterwards though.

49th Yare Navigation Race - Saturday 4th October,

#### **CANCELLED**

Preparations for the YNR commence a good 12 months ahead of the race so it was disappointing to say the least to have to cancel this year's event. Things initially start by finding a suitable Saturday with a tide which will be favourable, generally running in the same direction as the Cruisers from Coldham to Breydon and a good run with the tide back home.

The YNR committee, Sam, Colin, Kelvin Mark and Gary meet in early spring and then monthly with 41 shared tasks to undertake. A final meeting is then held on the Thursday before the race with the benefit of various weather forecasts and importantly to declare the location of the turning mark.

On Thursday and after a lot of discussions, checking various weather forecasts and predictions for our area on the day, along with consultation with various bodies such as the RYA and RNLI the decision was reluctantly taken to cancel the event. I believe that this is the first in its 49 year history that the race has had to be cancelled.

Had the forecaster got it wrong, well this time, unfortunately not. As late as the Friday before the Met Office were underestimating and reporting the strength of the wind. On Saturday they had nearly doubled their predictions and were confirming Storm Amy, declared with along with a yellow weather warning. On the same day the RNLI were strongly advising people to keep away from water. As disappointing as it was we believe that the right decision was made, not just for the safety of the cruiser owners and crews, but importantly for the safety of the marshals and spectators.

Next year will be the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the YNR and plans are already being thought about to make it special.

# **SAVE THE DATE**

# Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2026





50

# Horning Passage Race – 18<sup>th</sup> October



CHSC Commodore Dave Taitt and Race Officer Ben Adams took part in the recent Horning Passage Race (Blue Spinnaker in pictures) which this year took place on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> October. The race is open to all 3 Rivers Race craft, starting at Horning Sailing Club and following the main course of the 3RR giving an opportunity to take in some stunning Autumnal scenery along with the added bonus of no bridges to negotiate and a daylight finish.

David and Ben distinguished themselves by finishing 14<sup>th</sup> out of 47 participants and gaining 2nd place in the Yeoman Class.



### **Canoe and Paddle Board Section**



### Social Paddlers

The days are shorter and cooler along with the water temperture starting to drop, autumn is a lovely time to have a paddle, the trees losing there greenery producing amazing multi colours as their leaves begin to fall, soon trees will be back to bare wood, preparing and resting for the coming of 'spring'.



### Paddle Breakfast - 11th October

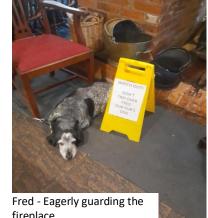
Photo's by Georgie

Seventeen Coldham paddlers, with two new junior members, Willaim (10) and Dougie (11), took advantage of a breakfast paddle on Saturday 11th October, all well wrapped up meeting and prepared to paddle by 9am at the club. Our group set off upstream against the ebbing tide towards the Ferry, crossing Bargate and back on to the main river. It certainly seemed a long way. Low water was at 10:08am.

We were met by our team photographer Georgie, snapping away, looking well wrapped up and keeping warm Then the fun bit, and fortunately not recorded, our group trying their best to look skilled on climbing from their craft onto the bank, minding out for the 'goose bit's'.

Arriving at the Ferry we were eagerly met by house dog, Fred, keen to see us and Sonia and her team. We were quickly warmed up with mugs of tea and coffee, next came the food from butties to the one person who ordered the LARGE 'Breakfast' and tucked it away, yes me.

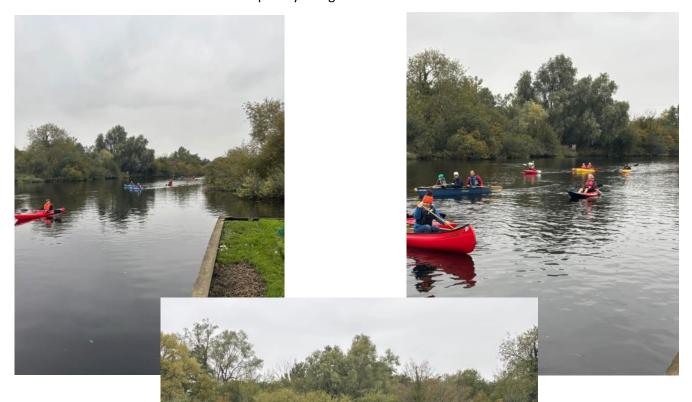
It was then time to set off home, fortunately the tide was now rising. We plonked ourselves back into the boats and headed back on the in-coming tide. Can anyone tell me why the journey back seemed quicker?



fireplace

All home safely, craft put away and we look forward to our next outing. The day was overcast, between 11 and 14 degrees, a light 3mph WNW

We thank Sonia and her team for their hospitality and good food.



**Quote of the day** - as the BA Ranger passed, Stephen turned to Dougie and asked 'is the Ranger on his own'?

Stephen - 'Yes, he must be the Lone Ranger'!

For the older ones amoungst us a groan and a chuckle, the younger one's a puzzled 'Who'?

No sign of Tonto though. Hi ho Silver away!

### Paddling and all craft check list.

- ➤ Check your craft for damage every time before you put it into the water. Keep an emergency repair kit with you if using an inflatable craft.
- Ensure you wear a buoyancy aid when near or on the water along with suitable warm clothing and leave a change of clothes back at base.
- Check you have all the equipment you might need for the activity you are planning.
- ➤ In a canoe or kayak, think about taking air bags or flotation devices.
- ➤ Consider any other items you might need, such as drinking water and energy snacks, and a travel first aid kit, and a map or navigation device if you are going somewhere new a dry bag is a useful item of kit to keep these essentials in on the water.
- > Taking your mobile phone in a waterproof pouch is recommended.
- ➤ Ensure that you are aware of self-rescue techniques, and that you have practised these in a safe environment with other people before going paddling alone.
- > Top of your list; let others know what, where and times you're going paddling and return.

Autumn paddling can be a great time to get on the water for a short period – keep safe and enjoy.

# **Club Notices**

# Cans for Cash Appeal

Dave Greenacre has collated the cans collected for cash and has taken them (13 post office sized sack loads) to the scrap yard and received a grand total of £13.50 for club funds. Just over £1 per sack.

Dave and the Committee would like to thank all who collected, crushed and brought cans to the club. However, it is now felt that when compared to the effort involved collecting and transporting is not worth the value it was thought. Therefore, the can collection is now finished so please don't bring them to the club anymore but do recycle them through your own local bin collections.



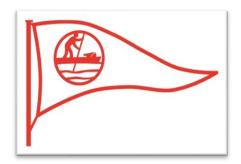
# Cancellation of Sailing notification.

This year's sailing season has been plagued with either too strong or too light winds and resulted in the cancellation of a number of the planned races.

Race Officer Ben Adams recognises that it can be frustrating to drive to the club, sometimes from quite a distance away, only to find that conditions are unsuitable and the race/s have been pulled.

To help with the and starting this month Ben will assess the forecasted weather conditions and wind strength early on the Sunday morning and work out if there is a good chance of sailing or not. In the event that the sailing that day has to be **cancelled** Ben will send out an advisory e-mail to all members on the club email system. This notification will be sent prior to 8 am.

So on days that look a bit 'iffy' please check your emails before setting off on a wasted trip.



# Coldham Hall Sailing Club 75<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 3rd December 2025
Bramerton Village Hall
7.30pm

Notice is hereby given that the 75<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of Coldham Hall Sailing Club will be held at Bramerton Village Hall on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2025 at 7.30pm.

Matters for inclusion on the agenda should be with the Honorary Secretary by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025. There are a number of Officer and Committee positions to be filled, nominations for these are to be sent to Honorary Secretary by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025

Final Notice of the meeting and of the business to be conducted will be sent to all members by Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 10 days before the meeting in line with Rules 10.2 and 10.3).

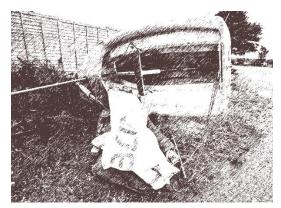
Members are reminded that no business can be raised at the meeting other than that covered by the agenda, or by questions on any of the Reports given.

Emma Crowfoot Honorary Secretary ejcrowfoot@gmail.co

## Winter Weather Preparation

As the main season draws to a close then an annual plea to all members sailing, canoeing & paddling.

The first storm (Storm Amy) has been and gone but it heralds the start of more to come. So again just a timely reminder that we should not become complacent. There are sure to be bigger and stronger storms with much stronger gusts in the coming months. So if your boat is on the dinghy park or you have a canoe on the racks then please start to take steps and prepare to prevent them being blown over by wind and sometimes damaging themselves and other boats. So, if you cannot take your boat/canoe/kayak away for safe winter storage then take a few moments to prepare and go down the club and do so.



Make sure your boat cover is properly fitted and secured. Remove any equipment that is not needed over winter such as sails and store safe and dry at home. If you can, tie the boat down to the trailer and additionally fit tie downs securing the boat and trailer to stakes in the ground so that it cannot blow over.

Owners of canoes/kayaks on the racks should consider securing them to the frame of the rack with strong rope to prevent them being blown around by high winds.

If you leave anything in the clubhouse then please make sure it is

not on the floor so that it is protected should the clubhouse flood.

Members are reminded that CHSC are not responsible for damage to members property (Club By-laws dated 2022) as such members are responsible for damage caused to their boat/canoe/kayak or to other members boats/canoes/kayaks or club property caused by failing to ensure a boat/canoe/kayak is adequately secured.

Your Insurance company may not pay out if they feel that you have not taken adequate precautions leaving you with what could be a major expense.

# A Story for Halloween - The Bishops Barge

Dave Durrant

For those of you who follow The Chronicle regularly you will recall that last Halloween we brought you the ghostly tale of the Wherry Mayfly, doomed to haunt Oulton Broad throughout the mists of time. This Halloween, by way of a change, we bring you a local tale that instead of the usual horror, murder, death and blood curdling screams has a more friendly feeling.

The story goes that if you are on the banks of the River Yare, at Brundall, in the dead of the night on 24<sup>th</sup> June, you may hear the ghostly muttering of incantations, the creak of oars and the swish of water as it passes along the hull

of a large boat heading along the river. Do not tremble with fear or take immediate flight for it is only the Bishops Barge.

As you nervously peer into the night with mounting trepidation you may just see the spectral apparition of a passing barge, covered with fine cloths and silks, the gold thread glinting in the moonlight, and propelled by 28 white robed rowers. At the stern stands the ghostly figure of the Bishop of Brundall, administering blessings upon the sick and ill as he passes.

It is said that to witness this apparition will bring you a year of good health and fortune.

Don't worry though if you miss it in June for the Bishop sets sail again on the 18<sup>th</sup> September continuing his journey through the night.



What the background story to this is unclear. There is no Bishop of Brundall nor has there ever been. Brundall is recorded in the Domesday Book as being part of the estate of William Bishop of Thetford from 1086 and the modern day area is part of the Bishop of Thetford, a suffragan Bishop for the Diocese of Norwich.

Is there any truth in the sightings? Who knows, but if you want to find out stand on the river bank in the dead of night next June or September but make sure you let us know what you see.

All members are invited to submit articles, photographs, comments, items for sale or anything they feel suitable to be considered for publication. Email to Gary Corbett <a href="mailto:corbett01@btconnect.com">corbett01@btconnect.com</a> or Dave Durrant <a href="mailto:davidkdurrant@yahoo.co.uk">davidkdurrant@yahoo.co.uk</a> The editors reserve the right to delay publication or amend/reformat/correct submissions as deemed appropriate.

# Coldham Hall Boatyard









Repairs, maintenance, modification, restoration, rigging. Hauling, storage.

Yachts, half-deckers, dinghies, motorboats.

Timber, GRP, all works considered.

ColdhamHallBoatyard@hotmail.com







# Classic Boat Rally Norfolk Punt Club Centenary Regatta

29th - 31st August 2026 Barton Broad



Concours d' elegance & Prizes

Best Restored - Most original Condition - Most interesting History

Owner's Drinks Party Boat Histories Boat visiting Sail-Past

We are inviting all boat owners whose time and energy have preserved vintage Broadland boats and the Broadland heritage, to a Classic Boat Rally at the Norfolk Punt Club (NPC) 1926 - 2026 Centenary Regatta on Barton Broad. All Sailing & Motor boats built before 1926 are particularly welcome.

The NPC Regatta has grown in popularity in recent years, and we hope you will come and enjoy the excellent sailing & racing on Barton, exceptional events and a very friendly welcome to visitors.

Rally events will include an owners' party on Barton Staithe, boat histories on a special regatta WhatsApp group, boat visiting and a Sail-Past. Prizes for the best restored, the most original condition, the most interesting history and best turned-out boats. As usual there will be racing for the traditional classes as part of the regatta program.

The Norfolk Punt was developed from the traditional Gun Punt, used to mount a large gun to hunt flocks of wildfowl on East Anglian estuaries. It has become one of the fastest single-hulled boats on The Portsmouth Yardstick and provides thrills & spills for all who sail them. As well as seeing Punts racing in their native habitat, part of our celebrations in the centenary year Regatta will be a punt-gunning exhibition & demonstration. The class rules still state that Traditional Punts must be able to mount a gun, quite useful in a speedy settlement of an RYA rules' infringement.

We look forward to you adding to the celebration of an important part of our rich Broadland Heritage. For details and more information please contact Simon

Jenner at <a href="mailto:npcvintage@puntclub.co.uk">npcvintage@puntclub.co.uk</a> or visit <a href="https://puntclub.co.uk/100th-rally/">https://puntclub.co.uk/100th-rally/</a>

Further information about registration for the event will be posted on the website & sent out in the New Year